

**New Program Proposal  
Bachelor of Science  
Pharmaceutical Studies  
Francis Marion University**

**Summary**

Francis Marion University requests approval to offer a new program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Studies, to be implemented in Spring 2013. The proposed program is to be offered through traditional instruction on campus.

The Program Planning Summary was submitted to the Commission on November 1, 2011, and reviewed and voted upon favorably without substantive comment by the Advisory Committee on Academic Program (ACAP) on January 20, 2011. Francis Marion University's Board of Trustees approved the proposal on March 2, 2012. The final proposal was received by the Commission on May 5, 2012.

According to the proposal, the purpose of the proposed program is to provide students with a seamless transition into the program leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy at the South Carolina School of Pharmacy as well as allow students to complete a baccalaureate degree in the process of completing their PharmD degree. Currently, a student completing the Pre-Pharmacy program at Francis Marion University typically completes the required 70 credit hours of coursework and is admitted to enroll in the South Carolina School of Pharmacy after two or three years at FMU and only receives a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. With the proposed program, once accepted to the South Carolina College of Pharmacy, students enrolled in the Pharmaceutical Studies program, who are admitted to the South Carolina School of Pharmacy will be eligible to transfer 30 credit hours back to the University to earn a baccalaureate degree in Pharmaceutical Studies after completing the first year toward their Doctor of Pharmacy degree program. Therefore, the proposed program will provide students with a baccalaureate degree should they fail to complete the doctoral program. In addition, the program will gain credit for a successful graduate.

The major goal of the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Studies is to prepare students to further their education in the field of pharmacy. A representative of the institution states that 95% of the students accepted into the South Carolina School of Pharmacy complete the Doctor of Pharmacy program. However, a student that does not complete the Doctor of Pharmacy program, and earns the baccalaureate degree, still has various employment options. The Pee Dee region has a growing area of health care and medical facilities with many local biomedical industries such as Irix, Roche and Martec. In addition, Bureau of Labor Statistic Statistics data projects employment for pharmacy technicians and wholesale and manufacturing sales representatives will increase 32% and 16%, respectively. Employment opportunities for pharmacist will increase 25% from 2010 to 2020, with a median income of \$111,570.

The University of South Carolina has a Pharmaceutical Sciences program. However, the proposal states that Clemson University has the only Pre- professional Bachelor of Arts/Science program in the state similar to Francis Marion University's Pharmaceutical Studies program. According to the proposal, Francis Marion University's program differs from Clemson University's program because of the University's collaborative agreement with the South

Carolina College of Pharmacy and the rigorous student credit hours requirement. Students will be required to complete 90 credit hours at Francis Marion University and 30 credit hours at the South Carolina College of Pharmacy to complete the proposed degree program.

Students wishing to enroll in the program must be accepted by Francis Marion University and the University of South Carolina and must meet the minimum back to the University requirements set by the South Carolina School of Pharmacy. The projected student enrollment is 15 (15.0 FTE) in the first year, 15 (8.5 FTE) in the second and third years, and 20 (11 FTE) in the fourth and fifth years of the program. If enrollment and program completion projections are met, the proposed program will meet the Commission's productivity standards.

The proposed curriculum requires a minimum of 90 credit hours with 61 credit of hours Pre-Pharmacy courses and 29 credit hours of general education requirements with electives. An additional 30 credit hours must be completed at the College of Pharmacy. Implementation of the program will require no new courses to be added to institution's catalogue.

In the first five years of the program, no new faculty, administrative or staff members will need to be hired to support the program. The proposal states that the institutions' existing chemistry department staff will be able to meet the demands of the program. According to the proposal, one faculty member currently serves as Coordinator of the Pre-Pharmacy program and will continue in that capacity.

The proposal states that no physical plant or significant equipment needs are anticipated to support the proposed program. The program will be housed in the existing Leatherman Science Facility and McNair Science Building. The two facilities have adequate classroom, research, and office space available.

James A. Rogers Library at Francis Marion University provides print and electronic resources, including the statewide PASCAL databases, Interlibrary Loan, Internet access, bibliographic instruction, and a variety of class-specific user education programs. Therefore, no new library resources are required.

In December 2011, Francis Marion and the South Carolina College of Pharmacy signed a memorandum of understanding establishing collaboration for the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Studies Program. Students from Francis Marion University must complete minimum curriculum requirements for the Pharmaceutical Studies program and be accepted into the Doctor of Pharmacy program at the South Carolina College of Pharmacy in order to complete a baccalaureate degree in Pharmaceutical Studies during the process of earning their Doctor of Pharmacy degree. The University's Chemistry Department has American Chemical Society (ACS) accreditation and the proposed program will not affect the accreditation process.

New costs and sources of financing identified by the institution for the proposed programs are shown below.

ESTIMATED COSTS BY YEAR						
CATEGORY	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	TOTALS
Program Administration	\$9,152.95	\$9,336.01	\$9,522.73	\$9,713.18	\$9,907.44	\$47,632.31
Faculty Salaries	\$29,625.60	\$30,218.11	\$30,822.47	\$31,438.92	\$32,067.70	\$154,172.8
Grad. Assistants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clerical/Support Personnel	\$4,350	\$4,437	\$4,525.74	\$4,616.25	\$4,708.58	\$22,637.57
Supplies and Materials	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$40,000
Library Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
Facilities	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS**</b>	\$51,128.55	\$51,991.12	\$52,870.94	\$53,768.35	\$54,683.72	\$264,442.68
SOURCES OF FINANCING BY YEAR						
Tuition Funding*	\$132,030.00	\$77,061.51	\$79,373.36	\$105,800.01	\$108,974.01	\$503,238.89
Program-Specific Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reallocation of Existing Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$132,030.00	\$77,061.51	\$79,373.36	\$105,800.01	\$108,974.01	\$503,238.89

\*Tuition and fees are calculated at a 3% increase per year.

\*\*No new costs to the institution.

These data demonstrate that if Francis Marion University can meet the projected student enrollments and contain costs as they are shown in the proposal, the program will be able to cover new costs with revenues it generates by the first year of its implementation.

In summary, Francis Marion University is proposing a program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Studies. The University has signed a collaborative agreement with the South Carolina College of Pharmacy which will allow students to complete a baccalaureate degree in Pharmaceutical Studies during the process of earning their Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the South Carolina College of Pharmacy. In addition, the proposed program will provide an opportunity for students who are not able to complete the Doctor of Pharmacy program, to earn a Baccalaureate degree in Pharmaceutical Studies that will provide them with the opportunity to pursue a graduate degree in Chemistry, Molecular Biology, bio-medical related areas, or for employment in various position in the field of public health.

### **Recommendation**

The staff recommends that the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing commend favorably to the Commission approval of Francis Marion University's proposed program leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmaceutical Studies, to be implemented in Spring 2013, provided that no "unique cost" or other special state funding be required or requested.